



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, D.C. 20594
Office of Marine Safety

Date: 01/17/07

Place: NTSB HQ

Person Interviewed: Captain Ronald Morris

Interview Conducted By: Liam LaRue,
Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board

INTRODUCTION

Ronald Morris was interviewed in conjunction with the Marine Board of Investigation concerning the *Athena 106*. The text that follows is not a verbatim record of the conversation. It has been developed from my handwritten notes of the conversation and is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

INTERVIEW

- Captain Morris is in charge of boating theft out of LDWF HQ in Baton Rouge
- Works out of East Baton Rouge
- Coast Guard helicopter was already there when they got to the scene.
- He was assisting on a recreational boating accident reconstruction in New Iberia (Iberia Parish) when the 9-11 call came in.
- He and Sgt. Mitchell Darby drove straight down to Cypermort Point.
- They took a boat from the Wildlife and Fisheries shed at Cypermort Point
- Boat was a 19' Boston Whaler
- They were the first law enforcement officers on scene
- They took about a dozen pictures
- Received the call from 9-11 around lunch time – they were wrapping up their work and about to eat lunch
- It took around 15 minutes to get to Cypermort Point

- It was around a 5-minute boat ride to the scene.
- They could see smoke miles before they got to the water
- Conducted grid searches for survivors/bodies
- Eventually they set up a perimeter to keep all non-law enforcement out (press)
- The surrounding area is very rural so there are only Volunteer fire departments

END OF INTERVIEW

Liam LaRue